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Preface:

Have you ever ask yourself the question as you are reading God's Word What questions should I ask myself to understand this Word more ? And How should I answer them? As You start your personal study with the Bible it is important to ask yourself Questions so you can better grasp of what you are reading. Jesus , the Apostles and the prophets and taught at times through questions?

(Jonah 4:11) And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle? (KJV)

(Nahum 3:19) There is no healing of thy bruise; thy wound is grievous: all that hear the bruit of thee shall clap the hands over thee: for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually? (KJV)

(Matthew 21:25) The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him? (KJV)

Mark 4:30 And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it?

(Galatians 3:1-5) O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if it be yet in vain. He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? (KJV)

Hope you keep this book and when you study God's word you can ask yourself these Questions which we will read in this short book . Host of the Mr Kakoulides and the Bible Podcast Harris Kakoulides

<u>Number 1</u> Is there a Command to Obey?

Is there a Command to Obey? As I am reading God's word what does God wants me to do? God wants us to be obedient to his word. So I think that is a very far question to ask yourself. We can see it threw out the scripture in both the Old and New Testament of the importance of obedience in the life of those who believe .

Judges 3:4 And they were left, that He might test Israel by them, to know whether they would obey the commandments of the LORD, which He had commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses.

1Samuel 15:22 Then Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.

Proverbs 21:3 To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

(2 Thessalonians 1:7-8) and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NKJV)

(2 Thessalonians 3:14) And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. (NKJV)

As you read his word daily and studying it ask the Lord and Look into the scripture that you are reading Lord God, What do you want me to do? What command in your Word which I just read that I am supose to obey? What does the Lord want me to do with what I just read? In the Epistles we see the commandments for Christians what God wants us to do in living the Christian life. What I just read am I now responible to pray about something I never prayed about or lacked in praying about it? Do I need to confess any sins I just commited that I didn't know was sin ?

<u>Number 2</u> Is there a example or principal for me to follow?

Is there a example or principal for me to followor not to follow? The lives of People are played out througout the Bible. And there lives gives us examples or principals to follow and not to follow? For example : Sometimes we can see in the person of Peter what to do and other times you could see what not to do. At one moment he is a great example of courage while he is filled with the Holy Spirit and at a other moment he is a coward . One moment he is arrogant and a other moment he is humbled from his pride because of a fall. In the Person of Judas there are examples not to follow and gaurd ourselves from. Like his love of Money is something we should gaurd ourselves from. In the person of Moses we see things that we should follow and things we shouldn't follow. We should follow Moses humbleness and faith. But we shouldn't follow Moses quick temper. We can learn from the lives Peter, Paul , Judas, Mose, Jesus and others including nations in the Old and New Testament.

John 13:15 "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you

(1 Corinthians 10:1-6) Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. (NKJV)

(Philippians 3:17) Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.

2 Thessalonians 3:9 not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us.

1Peter 2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

2Peter 2:6 and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;

Jude 1:7 as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

<u>Number 3</u> Is there a Promise to claim?

Is there a Promise to claim? The Bible is full of Promises.

2Corinthians 1:20 For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

2Corinthians 7:1 ¶ Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Galatians 3:16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ.

And all the time it is good to claim them. For example: There are promises from Jesus telling us I will never forsake you.

(Matthew 28:20) "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. (NKJV)

(Hebrews 13:5-6) Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" (NKJV)

That is a promise for me to claim, when I am feeling lonely " Lord Jesus don't leave me becasue you say in your word you will not leave me" But there is also promises we shouldn't be claiming because it was for that person in the Bible and none else , so the Context to these promises are very important. For example: If you are a 100 or 90 years old you shouldn't be claiming a child because that promise was only for Abraham and Sara. Or no virgin should be claiming to get pregant by the Holy Spirit because that promise was only for Mary and no other virgin.

<u>Number 4</u> Is there a sin to avoid?

Is there a sin to avoid? The Bible talks about sin. And as you read a chapter in the Bible you soon find out that besides telling us what he wants us to do , he also tells us what not to do. Or we see somebody avoiding a sin. For example Joseph avoided Adultery with Potiphar's wife. Shadrach; Meshach; and Abed-Nego avoided Idoltry see number 2 for examples not to follow . These two sins we are told to flee from them.

1Corinthians 6:18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

1Corinthians 10:14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

So the Bible tells us of sins to avoid not just by examples but by command. In the Book of Proverbs we are told of a number of sins to avoid and the out come if we do not avoid them.

<u>Number 5</u> What do I learn about God in what I just read?

What do I learn about God in what I just read? Because God reveals who he is in the Bible. There is a great number of people in churches who don't know God because they don't read and mediate on who God is in the Bible and what he wants us to know about himself. If you know God , you become known by him.

Galatians 4:9 But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God....

1Corinthians 8:3 But if anyone loves God, this one is known by Him.

Notice how we should love God and that includes with all our minds.

Matthew 22:37 Jesus said to him," 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

Mark 12:30 'And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment.

Luke 10:27 So he answered and said," 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'"

If you truely love someone you get to know them, And if they write to you , read what they wrote to you and you mediate on what they wrote or what they spoke to you. Sometimes even reading text which they wrote to you again and again. The Bible is God's love letter to his people which he reveals his likes , hates , personality , attibutes to us. This is something you need to ask yourself as you read a chapter what can I learn about God in what I just read. Does it speak about God's holiness , his love , his jealously , his sovereignty, his omniscience (all Knowlege), his omnipresence (All Presence), his omnipotence (All Powerfulness). You have to ask yourself these questions because you are reading the Bible to get to know God. Because like I said before you are reading a love letter from God who wants to reveal himself to you. How does what is read relate to how the people around us define God? Because people may have a wrong veiw about God or who God is from what the Bible states about him. In short they have a false god which is not the one of the Bible. Did you have a wrong view about God before reading the passage? If so what did it change? Sometimes we come with limited knowelge about God before reading the Bible. It is good to read the Bible we learn something new about God all the time as we grow closer to him through the word.

<u>Number 6</u> What do I learn about People ?

What do I learn about People ? The Scipture speaks to us about God but it also tells us about people. Do I learn of thier Depravity , that God needs to mold the heart of man before he or she could respond to him, that they are in need salvation, Do I learn that People are good or there is no good person except God. What do I learn about ancient civilians, nations , customs and the way they did things in those days? How do they respond to God? Do they respond with Love, or do they disobey God? Is there anything admirable about the person you just read about ?

<u>Number 7</u> What is the Context of what I am reading?

What is the Context of what I am reading? Which involves the following : Who is involved in the chapter or story that I just read? What is happening? When is it happening? Time of the events is very important. Where is it happening? Why is it happening? How is it happening ? Is it happening in the Old or New Covenant? Is it before the law of Moses or after ? Is it the time of Grace? Who is the author? Who is the audience of the passage or book of the writting . Because it makes a world of differance knowing these things. For example: Tithing , you not call to give tithings anymore. That was under the Old Covenant not new no matter what your pastor might tells you. In the New Covenant we are called to give offerings but not ten percent of your income. Many times people read something not in context and if you reading something not in it's context, if you going to preach or teach about what was read you will end up giving a really bad study or sermon. And I heard some awfully bad sermons and studies which had nothing to due with the context of the passage. A few months ago I heard a bad sermon it was not in line with the context of scripture . It is important to know the whole story. Many false religions came about due to the person not knowing the context of the passages and teaching thier false view to others.

<u>Number 8</u> What type of Literature I am reading?

What type of Literature I am reading? There are differant kinds of Literary genres found in the Bible. For example Jesus use Hyperboles which is exaggeration to make a point like:

Matthew 5:30 And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Does Jesus mean that you really have to cut off your hand or eye? No What is meant was to remove from you those things which causes you to stumble. Might be a certain friendship with people who will influence you the wrong way , Television , the web and so on.

<u>Number 9</u> What Truths do I need to recieve ?

What Truths do I need to recieve ? Sometimes we don't want to recieve the truth , at times it is easlier to live a lie. But that is not what we are called to do . So it is important to ask ourselves what truth is God telling me in his word.

<u>Number 10</u> Are There any prophecy ?

Are There any prophecy ? The Bible is around 30 percent prophecys. What is a prophecy? The future spoken in advance by God's spokesman called a prophet. Are there any prophecy fullfilled or unfullfilled? Does it have a double fullfillment?

<u>Number 11</u> Is Christ Jesus seen whether in a type, symbolic, forshallow, preincarnated form or prophecy in what I just read?

Is Christ Jesus seen whether in a type, symbolic, forshallow, preincarnated form or prophecy in what I just read? The Scripture is all about Jesus Christ whether you read the Old or New Testament you should find him there. You have to understand Jesus is the key to open and understand the scripture. For example

Jesus said in Luke 24

Luke 24:44 And he (Jesus) said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.(KJV)

Jesus said in Matthew that he is the fullfillment of the Law

Matthew 5:17 ¶ Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

Just like the Prophets have thier fullfillment in Christ. Jesus told the Jews in John chapter 5.

(John 5:45-47) Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words? (KJV)

So this is a important question to ask yourself as you look at the tabernacle, show bread , lampstand , Temple , the feasts , Altar , sacrifices , Laws they are symbolic of Christ. They all speak about Jesus who he is and his atonement on the cross. The Tabernacle only had one entrance Just like there is only way to be saved and that is through Jesus. Jesus said He was the door.

John 10:7,9 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.,I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Inside the tabernacle there was a lampstand. What does Jesus say? I am the light of the world

John 8:12 ¶ Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

John 9:5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

In the Tabernacle was twelve loaves of bread. And What Jesus says I am the bread of Life

John 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

John 6:41 The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven.

Don't you get it if you are reading the Bible for selfish interst only to proclaim promises for your life , even thou it is good to proclaim promises of God, You are reading it for the wrong motives if you are not reading it to find and to know Christ Jesus. Because it is there we get to know Jesus . The worse thing that could happen to you is that you die being a so call christian and you think you going to heaven but Jesus tells you" I never knew you because you failed to know me." And you tell him "I read your word and I went to church. " And he responds "you never love me enough to get to know me so I don't know you" That is a pretty scary thing. Because if you don't know Jesus , Jesus don't know you .

<u>Number 12</u> How do I see Grace?

How do I see Grace? What does Grace mean? Unmerited Favor. You can find grace in the Old and New Testament. We see that God had grace on David.